



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 08 September 2005

Current
Nationwide
Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS

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Daily Highlights

- The Associated Press reports analysts warn that due to Hurricane Katrina there is a potential long-term loss of natural gas production in the Gulf of Mexico. (See item [1](#))
- The Associated Press reports Social Security cards, driver's licenses, credit cards, and other personal documents are literally floating around New Orleans, raising the prospect some hurricane survivors could be victimized again, this time by identity thieves. (See item [8](#))
- The Federal Communications Commission is working with wireless Internet service providers and infrastructure experts to coordinate efforts to provide communications for storm-ravaged areas. (See item [32](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

Federal and State: [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

IT and Cyber: [Information Technology and Telecommunications](#); [Internet Alert Dashboard](#)

Other: [Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons](#); [General](#); [DHS Daily Report Contact Information](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *September 07, Associated Press* — **As oil falls, alarm sounds on natural gas.** One problem due to Hurricane Katrina is the potential long-term loss of natural gas production in the Gulf of Mexico, according to analysts. Katrina caused significant damage to Royal Dutch Shell PLC's Mars platform, which produces about 250,000 barrels a day of crude oil and 365 million cubic feet of gas a day. By Tuesday, September 6, more than four billion cubic feet a day, or 42

percent, of the region's natural gas production remained shut down and 67.6 billion cubic feet of output has been lost since August 26, according to the Minerals Management Service. This is the time of year when utilities typically increase their underground storage of natural gas to prepare for winter demand. The U.S. does not have an emergency stockpile of natural gas as it does for crude oil, and the country's capacity for importing liquefied natural gas is limited. "Natural gas is the one commodity here that I have very little to say about in the way of good news," said oil analyst John Kilduff at brokerage Fimat USA. On Tuesday, natural gas futures slipped 3.4 cents to settle at \$11.657 per 1,000 cubic feet. A year ago, natural gas futures traded below \$5.

Source: <http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/business/stories.nsf/story/B6DA4CAF2AA60657862570750009E06A?OpenDocument>

2. *September 07, Reuters* — **Katrina to keep oil prices high according to government officials.**

Hurricane Katrina's damage to the U.S. energy sector will keep oil, gasoline and other oil product prices high, which should slow growth in petroleum demand in the months ahead, the government's energy forecasting agency said on Wednesday, September 7. Katrina battered oil and gas production platforms in the Gulf of Mexico and forced several Louisiana and Mississippi refineries to close. The Energy Information Administration (EIA) said 900,000 barrels per day (bpd) of domestic crude oil refining capacity may still be offline at the end of September due to storm damage. "Recovery in the refining sector depends on how fast the affected refineries can return to normal operations and the capability of refineries outside the hurricane-stricken area to increase their rates to make up for the lost capacity," the EIA said in its monthly energy supply and demand forecast. "Unfortunately, the hurricane season is not yet over and the severity and location of hurricanes over the next few months could continue to influence U.S. and world oil markets," the agency said. Oil prices are likely "to react sharply" to any more disruption of or damage to petroleum infrastructure, the EIA said.

EIA Short-Term Energy Outlook: <http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/steo/pub/contents.html>

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/09/07/AR2005090701298.html>

3. *September 07, Associated Press* — **Mississippi refinery remains out of operation.** The largest oil refinery shut down by Hurricane Katrina remains out of operation and owner Chevron Corp. said late Tuesday, September 6, it's unclear when refining will resume at the Mississippi site. Chevron's Pascagoula, MS, refinery processes 325,000 barrels of crude oil a day and was the largest put out service because of severe hurricane damage last week. Chevron said a dike built following Hurricane Georges in 1998 helped prevent more serious damage to the refinery even though a section of it was breached by Katrina. The dike is expected to be fully repaired later this week. Limited power has been restored to the refinery, allowing the company to provide gasoline and diesel products to local emergency workers and 25 gas stations that are now open in the Pascagoula area.

Source: http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/050907/katrina_chevron_refinery_hk3.html?v=2

4. *September 07, Shelby County Reporter (AL)* — **Gas shortage worries shadow rising fuel prices.** Residents in the Birmingham, AL, area and across the state of Alabama are battling high gas prices and shortages. Alabamans are faced with long lines at gas stations and limits on how much they can purchase when they arrive at the pump. Rumors are spreading quickly about gas shortages, leaving many residents wondering how they will make it to work

everyday. AAA Alabama public relations manager Clay Ingram said panicking is the worst thing local residents can do in a situation like this. "We've seen a lot of panic-buying," Ingram said. "This has caused stations across the area to run short or run out of gas. It's true that our gas supply is going to be short for the next few weeks, but there's plenty of crude oil available. It's just a struggle right now to get it refined and delivered because of the storm damage." The Gulf Coast is home to 40 percent of the nation's oil refineries, and two major pipelines that provide fuel to the Southwest U.S. were heavily damaged by Katrina.

Source: <http://www.shelbycountyreporter.com/articles/2005/09/07/news/news04.txt>

5. *September 06, Reuters* — **U.S. faces tight gasoline supply for weeks.** U.S. gasoline supplies, particularly in the southeast region hit by Hurricane Katrina, will remain tight for weeks because of disrupted fuel supplies, the administrator of the U.S. Energy Information Administration said on Tuesday, September 6. "We expect (the supply situation) to remain that way for the next several weeks," Guy Caruso told a Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearing on the effect Hurricane Katrina is having on gasoline prices.

Energy Information Administration: <http://www.eia.doe.gov>

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/nm/20050906/bs_nm/congress_natgas_dc_1

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

6. *September 06, El Paso Times (TX)* — **Ammonia leak forces evacuation of dairy plant.** An ammonia leak forced the evacuation of the Farmer's Dairy in El Paso, TX, early Tuesday, September 6, officials said. Several Hazardous Material units were dispatched to the scene at 6:48 a.m. Firefighters arriving at the scene reported two people were overcome by fumes. The police department blocked the street and rerouted traffic while investigators searched for the source of the leak. A firefighter inside the dairy processing facility reported that fumes were coming from a tank that was being cleaned by workers. This is the second time in three weeks that an ammonia leak has forced an evacuation of the plant.

Source: <http://www.borderlandnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050906/NEWS/50906001/1001>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Banking and Finance Sector

7. *September 07, Vnunet.com* — **British online banking users can be complacent.** Most UK users of Internet banking services are dangerously complacent about the danger posed by phishing scams, and expect their banks to take responsibility for the risks, industry experts

warned on Wednesday, September 7. According to Benjamin Ensor, senior financial services analyst at technology and market research company Forrester Research, "Internet users do not know what to think about online banking security. Without the technical knowledge to judge the severity of security threats like keystroke–logging and phishing (or much interest in acquiring that knowledge) people struggle to reach a balanced judgment. The result is that about half of the UK's Internet users are either complacent or paranoid about online banking security, and UK banks still face big communication and security problems." Although many UK surfers have taken some basic precautions, their lack of interest in learning more about threats like identity theft leads to complacency rather than vigilance, according to the analyst. Perhaps more worryingly, Forrester suggested that complacent customers are easy targets for scammers. Forrester said that banks need to educate customers about online fraud, restrict the functionality on some accounts, and use customer profiling to defend against security threats. They also need to deploy stronger Internet banking authentication.

Executive Summary: <http://www.forrester.com/Research/Document/Excerpt/0.7211.37575.00.html>

Source: <http://www.vnunet.com/vnunet/news/2141983/uk-web-bank-users-complacent>

8. *September 06, Associated Press* — **Experts warn of Katrina identity theft.** Social Security cards, driver's licenses, credit cards and other personal documents are literally floating around New Orleans, raising the prospect some hurricane survivors could be victimized again — this time by identity thieves. Betsy Broder, the attorney who oversees the Federal Trade Commission's identity theft program, said the agency has not received any complaints yet. However, it's still early after the disaster and people have been focusing on more pressing needs, such as shelter, food and medicine. "This is probably not the most immediate concern that people have, but at a certain point they need to stop and take stock of their financial health," Broder said Tuesday, September 6. As survivors begin to rebuild their lives, she said, they can take steps to avoid becoming the victims of identity scammers. Broder said survivors giving personal data to insurance adjustors or Federal Emergency Management Agency representatives should be certain they're dealing with legitimate individuals and "not crooks who are trying to trick them out of their information so they can commit identity theft." Once victims are able to get access to phones, Internet and mail, they should check their credit card and bank statements to see if there's been any unusual activity.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/09/06/AR2005090601176.html>

9. *September 06, Agence France–Presse* — **Fraud concerns dent interest in online banking.** Worries about online fraud and identity theft have curbed Americans' interest in Internet banking. A survey by research firm Ipsos Insight indicated that after years of dramatic growth, the percentage of Americans who conduct personal banking online remained unchanged during the 12–month period ended August 2005. Some 39 percent of Americans conduct banking online, but growth has stalled amid concerns about hackers stealing and using personal information and fears that some companies may be selling client records to third parties. The survey of 1,000 adults showed 83 percent of respondents who bank online reported concerns over protecting their personal information from theft, and 73 percent said personal information theft is a deterrent. "The industry needs to convey that they are, in fact, addressing the fundamental issues of personal information protection and theft associated with online banking, because the public's misperception is what's deterring growth," said Doug Cottings, senior vice

president of Ipsos Insight's financial services division.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/afp/20050906/tc_afp/usinternetbankingfraud_050906165625

[[Return to top](#)]

Transportation and Border Security Sector

10. *September 07, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-05-728: Aviation Safety: FAA Management Practices for Technical Training Mostly Effective; Further Actions Could Enhance Results (Report)**. One key way that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) makes air travel safer is to inspect the manufacture, operation, and maintenance of aircraft that fly in the United States. To better direct its resources, FAA is shifting from an inspection process that relied on spot-checks of compliance with regulations to one that evaluates operating procedures and analyzes inspection data to identify areas that pose the most risk to safety (called system safety). While FAA believes the new approach requires some technical knowledge of aircraft, Congress and the Government Accountability Office (GAO) have long-standing concerns over whether FAA inspectors have enough technical knowledge to effectively identify risks. GAO reviewed the extent that FAA follows effective management practices in ensuring that inspectors receive up-to-date technical training. In addition, GAO is reporting on technical training that the aviation industry provides to FAA. Within the context of an overall system safety approach, GAO recommends that FAA take several actions, including systematically assessing inspectors' technical training needs. FAA officials generally agreed with the contents of this report and agreed to consider GAO's recommendations.

Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d05728high.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-05-728>

11. *September 07, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-05-704SP: FAA Safety Inspector Training Survey Data (Report)**. This document presents the results of the Government Accountability Office's (GAO) survey of Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) safety inspectors. The purpose of the survey was to gather information about the technical training available to them. GAO developed a Web-based questionnaire to obtain this information. GAO drew a stratified random probability sample of 496 inspectors from the population of 2,989 aviation safety inspectors. There was a 79-percent response rate. All estimates have been weighted to the population of aviation safety inspectors. The percentage estimates for all survey respondents have a margin of error of plus or minus 4.6 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level. A more detailed discussion of the scope and methodology and a discussion of the summary of selected survey results is contained in the report entitled "Aviation Safety: FAA Management Practices for Technical Training Mostly Effective; Further Actions Could Enhance Results."

Full Report: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?rptno=GAO-05-728>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-05-704SP>

12. *September 07, Purchasing Magazine (MA)* — **Ports begin to re-open with limited facilities**. The Port of New Orleans has reopened to traffic, but is in desperate need for fuel, according to reports coming out of the storm-ravaged region. According to news reports, the port is "in dire need" of diesel and has asked the Department of Homeland Security to help procure it from the

Federal Emergency Management Agency. The diesel is needed to run shipboard generators that will create the electricity to run operations. The river is now open in both directions simultaneously during daylight hours. The draft is officially restricted to 35 feet. At the port at Gulfport, MS, gutting the east pier facilities and wiping out its cargo plants handling forest products, aluminum, paper, according a MarketWatch report. Until the New Orleans port is rebuilt, its cargo could be diverted to neighboring ports, including Mobile, AL, said industry spokesperson Aaron Ellis at the American Association of Port Authorities. Ports in Houston, south Florida, Savannah, GA, and North Carolina also could receive some cargo if space is available.

Source: <http://www.purchasing.com/article/CA6254889.html>

13. *September 07, Department of Transportation* — **DOT proposes rule to require airlines to provide in-flight medical oxygen without charge.** Many U.S. air carriers and foreign air carriers operating to and from the United States would be required to provide medical oxygen without charge to passengers who need it during flight, under a new rule proposed on Wednesday, September 7, by the Department of Transportation (DOT). This proposed requirement would apply to all passenger carriers operating at least one aircraft with more than 60 seats. DOT is proposing this requirement because passengers needing supplemental oxygen on flights have long experienced significant difficulties in obtaining the services they need in order to fly. Currently, airlines are not required to provide medical oxygen to passengers, and many choose to not offer it. The proposal, if made final, also would require all U.S. air carriers and foreign air carriers operating to and from the United States, except for on-demand air taxis, to test four types of respiratory assistive devices to ensure that they will not cause interference with aircraft navigation or communication systems. Comments on the proposed rule, which was published in Wednesday's Federal Register, are due in 60 days.

The proposed rule and comments on the proposal may be obtained at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/dot12305.htm>

14. *September 07, Voice of America* — **U.S. Coast Guard is expanding operations in ports and waterways.** The Coast Guard's main job continues to be protecting the ports, ships, and commuter ferries from a terrorist attack. Captain Stephen Metruck, commander of the Seattle Sector, says the ports and surrounding waters are better protected. "I can say it is more secure than what it was prior to September 11, 2001. We have got a lot more assets here and we have coordination with all the agencies, federal state country and local." For example, the Coast Guard has set up new maritime safety and security teams. A unit of so-called Sea Marshals are highly trained to respond to a situation at a moment's notice. On some missions, they board cruise ships to observe passengers, along with their luggage and cargo coming onboard. Coast Guard enforcement officers also screen crewmembers onboard foreign vessels coming into port. They check their passports to see if they might be on a terrorist watch list and do interviews asking them about their last ports of call. In addition to its expanded anti-terrorism mission, the Coast Guard is still fulfilling its traditional duties such as ensuring safe coastal navigation and search and rescue missions.

Source: <http://www.voanews.com/english/2005-09-07-voa37.cfm>

15. *September 06, Department of Transportation* — **Transportation Secretary Mineta launches construction for new transit hub at Ground Zero.** Department of Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta on Tuesday, September 6, stood in the crater of Ground Zero to launch

construction of the new transit hub that will serve the heart of Manhattan's Financial District, signaling the start of some of the most highly-visible progress in the rebuilding effort since the site was destroyed by the September 11 terror attacks. The Bush Administration is providing 100 percent of the financing for the \$1.92 billion effort to rebuild the Port Authority Trans-Hudson (PATH) terminal at the World Trade Center site. The new facility, expected to be operational by 2009, will serve an estimated 80,000 PATH riders daily, and will feature a pedestrian-friendly street level entrance and climate controlled pedestrian concourses to future ferry service and the city's subway network. The new World Trade Center Hub and the Fulton Street Transit Center are two of the recovery projects that are being funded by the Bush Administration through the U.S. Department of Transportation under a \$4.55 billion program to rebuild transportation infrastructure in Lower Manhattan.

Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/fta2005.htm>

[[Return to top](#)]

Postal and Shipping Sector

16. *September 07, United States Post Office* — **National mail service updates.** Effective immediately, the Postal Service (USPS) is not accepting any Standard Mail (Letters and Flats) or Periodicals Mail — from any source — addressed for delivery within the following three-digit ZIP Code ranges: 369, 393, 394, 395, 396, 700, 701 and 704. This emergency action has been taken as a result of severe facility damage, evacuations and other issues resulting from Hurricane Katrina. The USPS is now formulating plans to address the handling of Standard and Periodicals Mail already in the mail stream and addressed for delivery to these eight ZIP Code areas.

For further information and details about mail and ZIP codes, refer to the USPS Website,

<http://www.usps.com>

Source: <http://www.usps.com/communications/news/serviceupdates.htm?from=bannercommunications&page=katrina>

[[Return to top](#)]

Agriculture Sector

17. *September 07, Macon Telegraph (GA)* — **Software profits peanut farmers.** Sometimes it's hard for John Dawson to believe it's time to irrigate again when he's just watered his peanut plants — or that parched-looking plants sometimes don't need water. But that's what the computer says, and Dawson says despite his lifetime of farming experience, the computer is more likely to be right. Dawson is one of about seven Pulaski, GA, farmers who are harvesting more and better peanuts by using a regimen of high-tech computer software combined with scouting in their fields. At the request of local farmers who wanted help with figuring out when to water, Ronnie Barentine, Pulaski County extension agent, developed the county's integrated peanut management program. It uses computer modeling to predict exactly when peanut farmers should irrigate and harvest each field, issues advisories and weather forecasts when it's time to spray for diseases, and integrates this information with checks for insects, fungus and disease. As a result, the county's farmers have increased yields by at least 300 pounds an acre.

Participants save money by using less water, fungicide and pesticide, Dawson said. He estimates his family saved \$15 an acre on 2,000 acres of peanuts this year by avoiding unnecessary insecticide sprays.

Source: <http://www.macon.com/mld/macon/12576783.htm>

18. *September 07, Stop Soybean Rust News* — **Soybean rust moves north in South Carolina.** A commercial soybean field in Calhoun, SC, is now positive for soybean rust. Calhoun County is in central South Carolina, nearly as far north as Oconee County in Georgia, the northernmost point in the U.S. known to have rust in 2005. This is the third positive county for South Carolina, and the second in the past six days. The first soybean rust in the South Carolina was found in a commercial soybean field in Hampton County on August 15. Then scouts found rust August 31 in a Barnwell County research plot.

Source: <http://www.stopsoybeanrust.com/viewStory.asp?StoryID=534>

19. *September 06, Richmond Times Dispatch (VA)* — **Virginia is forming plan to fight invasive species across the state.** Experts are drafting a plan to help Virginia fight invasive species. The plan aims to better control species from far-away places that are damaging the state. Nationwide, such invaders cause more than \$135 billion in damage annually, according to a draft of the plan. The damage includes crop losses, human disease, forest problems, and costs to control the invaders. Invaders troubling Virginia include the fast-growing reed phragmites — which is taking over large hunks of eastern marshes; and the hemlock woolly adelgid — an insect that threatens to wipe out Virginia's hemlock trees. An advisory panel of experts is devising the plan for the Virginia Invasive Species Council, a group created by the 2003 General Assembly to find ways to ward off invaders. The draft plan calls for, among other things, government agencies and private groups to work closely together to prevent, detect, and control the spread of invaders. The advisory panel hopes to present a plan in November for the council to consider adopting.

Source: http://www.timesdispatch.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=RTD%2FMGArticle%2FRTD_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1031784885000&path=!news&s=1045855934842

[[Return to top](#)]

Food Sector

20. *September 06, Food and Drug Administration* — **Food and Drug Administration amends bovine spongiform encephalopathy rule.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Tuesday, September 6, published several amendments to the July 2004 interim final rule, "Use of Materials Derived from Cattle in Human Food and Cosmetics," that will allow the use of certain cattle-derived material in human foods and cosmetics. The rule prohibits the use of cattle-derived materials that can carry the infectious agent for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in human foods, dietary supplements, and in cosmetics. Based on the scientific information provided during the interim final rule's comment period, which demonstrates that a part of the cow's digestive tract called the distal ileum can be consistently and effectively removed from the other sections of the small intestine, it is no longer necessary to designate the entire small intestine as a prohibited cattle material. As a result, FDA is amending the rule to allow use of the small intestine in human food and cosmetics, provided

that the distal ileum has been removed. The amendments also clarify that milk and milk products, hides and hide-derived products, and tallow derivatives are not prohibited for use in human food and cosmetics.

Source: <http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/news/2005/NEW01229.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Water Sector

21. *September 04, Associated Press* — **Water-treatment units sent to Gulf.** In the past, only Third World nations received the portable water-treatment units built by the nonprofit Water Missions International. Now, several units will be operating in the hurricane-ravaged Gulf Coast. Five units were shipped that together can provide drinking water for 30,000 people a day. The group's standard filtration units, with 275-gallon storage tanks, are built in steel cages that can be placed on the back of pickup trucks and taken to remote areas. Each has a diesel generator operating an electric pump that can purify water from a pond or stream. However, health regulations in the U.S. require water-treatment plants to have permits, involving extensive testing of water sources, that can take months to obtain. So Water Missions has had to add reverse osmosis to units destined for the hurricane area. Water treated with reverse osmosis does not require permits, but the osmosis units and larger diesel generators needed to run them triples the cost. In the weeks after last year's tsunami, Water Missions shipped about 100 of its standard units to the affected regions. The group has 40 standard units — enough to provide water for 200,000 people a day — that could be shipped immediately. Now the osmosis units must be ordered then added to the units.

Source: <http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/mld/myrtlebeachonline/news/local/12558728.htm>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Public Health Sector

22. *September 06, Associated Press* — **Mosquito-borne illness kills two in Massachusetts.** A rare mosquito-borne disease killed a young girl and an elderly man who lived in neighboring towns, health officials said Tuesday, September 6, as they urged people to protect themselves against the insects. The two became ill with Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) virus within days of a third woman who also lives nearby. She remains hospitalized in serious condition, officials said. Four New Hampshire residents have also turned up ill with the virus in recent weeks; none have died. It wasn't clear how or when the disease was contracted by the 5-year-old girl and the 83-year-old man, who lived in the state's southeastern arm, said Al DeMaria, state director of communicable disease control. The U.S. has had only about 200 confirmed cases of EEE since 1964. The disease kills around 35 percent of the people who contract it, and causes mild to severe neurological problems in another 35 percent. There is no licensed vaccine for humans. The virus also can affect birds and horses.

Eastern equine encephalitis information: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dybid/arbor/eeefact.htm>

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2005-09-06-mosquito-virus_x.htm

23.

September 06, Agence France–Presse — **European Union tightens guidelines for bird flu surveillance.** European Union (EU) experts have agreed upon new guidelines to help the bloc more closely track potentially deadly bird flu among wild birds. Specifically, veterinary and virology experts urged EU states to identify high-risk species, based on their numbers in the EU, their origin and migratory paths, and the likelihood they would come into contact with poultry. In addition the EU's 25 member states will also identify sites at risk where birds might mix, particularly near domestic poultry farms and migratory paths, and be alert to any unusual bird deaths. The H5N1 strain of bird flu has killed more than 60 people in Asia.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20050906/hl_afp/healthflueu_050906194850;_ylt=ArcZQharcOP4hqvxSYZmGL2JOrgF;_ylu=X3oDMTBiMW04NW9mBHNIYwMIJVRPUCU1

24. *September 06, Associated Press* — **Contaminants a health concern in New Orleans.** Four people may have died of a waterborne bacterial infection circulating in Hurricane Katrina's flood waters. The deaths appear to have been caused by *Vibrio vulnificus*, a germ common in Gulf Coast waters. The deaths — one a hurricane refugee evacuated to Texas, the other three in Mississippi — were attributed to wound infections, said Tom Skinner, spokesperson for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The reports underscore advice issued by federal health officials: Rescue workers and anyone left in hurricane-ravaged areas should try to limit direct skin contact with flood waters; seek immediate medical attention if they have wounds exposed to the dirty water; and wash their hands frequently. Wounds infected by submersion in New Orleans floodwaters tainted with raw sewage and other bacteria are common; however, CDC Director Julie Gerberding said that another concern is whether those waters also were contaminated with toxic chemicals from hurricane damage to nearby factories. That's a key question for a new federal task force of medical and environmental authorities who began setting up Tuesday, September 6, at Kindred Hospital in New Orleans, to monitor for disease outbreaks and "begin to make judgments about when New Orleans is safe to reinhabit," said Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2005/09/06/national/a135146D23.DTL&type=health>

25. *September 06, World Health Organization* — **World Health Organization urges responsible use of antimalarial medicines.** The World Health Organization (WHO) has warned that as more and more people gain access to malaria medicines — which combine a drug derived from the plant *Artemisia annua* with a second, synthetic drug — it is vital that countries closely monitor their effectiveness. More than 50 governments have followed WHO's recommendations on malaria treatment and adopted artemisinin-based combination therapies (ACTs). Drugs derived from the plant *Artemisia annua* must be used as ACTs in combination with a second drug. Otherwise, the medicines could lose their potency over time due to the development of resistance. This has already happened with other antimalarial drugs. To avert resistance, WHO is calling on countries to use only WHO-approved ACTs of high quality, since drugs of low potency can promote resistance. The danger of resistance stems from the malaria parasite's ability to evade the lethal action of drugs. Because malaria parasites are genetically highly diverse, some strains can escape drugs unharmed and pass along their resistance to progeny. As sensitive organisms die off, resistant strains may come to dominate, and over time an antimalarial drug can lose its ability to cure infection.

Source: http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2005/pr40/en/in_dex.html

26. *September 06, Associated Press* — Maryland distributes bioterrorism preparedness cards.

Maryland's public health agency is offering a guide to six biological, chemical, and radiological weapons printed on a folded sheet of paper that can be carried in a wallet. The bioterrorism preparedness cards from the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene also contain tips on planning for, and responding to, such an attack. One side of the sheet has spaces for writing in emergency telephone numbers and any special medical needs of the card carrier. The cards were made available last week at local public health offices. The cards feature information about anthrax, botulism, smallpox, plague, sarin and dirty bombs — explosive devices that disperse low-level radioactive material. The cards contain Internet addresses for Maryland's public health agency, the CDC and the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, but no telephone numbers. County health offices can place or stamp their phone numbers in a blank space.

Bioterrorism preparedness card: <http://www.dhmd.state.md.us/preparednessinfo.pdf>

Source: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/custom/attack/bal-cards0906.1.3372345.story?coll=bal-local-headlines>

27. *September 01, Georgia Institute of Technology* — New method can detect potential bioterror agent and pinpoint bacterial strain. A new combination of analytical chemistry and mathematical data analysis techniques allows the rapid identification of the species, strain, and infectious phase of the potential bioterrorism agent *Coxiella burnetii*. The bacterium causes the human disease Q fever, which can cause serious illness and even death. The testing method that is 95.2 percent accurate in identifying and classifying *Coxiella burnetii*. The laboratory test delivers results in about five minutes compared to about two hours for the lab technique currently used to detect this bacterium. Mass spectrometry allows researchers to look at the profiles of different proteins expressed in a microorganism. Researchers combined mass spectrometry — an analytical technique to study ionized molecules in the gas phase — and a mathematical data analysis technique called partial least squares analysis. Not only is the combination of these techniques into one method a novel concept, this research also represents the first time that *Coxiella burnetii* has been detected at the strain level with a rapid detection process. Researchers believe the technique also will work with other pathogens, which they expect to begin studying this fall.

Q Fever information: http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/submenus/sub_q_fever.htm

Source: <http://gtresearchnews.gatech.edu/newsrelease/q-fever.htm>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Government Sector

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Emergency Services Sector

28. *September 07, Science Daily* — NASA's science resources help agencies respond to Katrina. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) science instruments and

Earth-orbiting satellites are providing detailed insight about the environmental impact caused by Hurricane Katrina. Images and data are helping characterize the extent of flooding; damage to homes, businesses and infrastructure; and potential hazards caused by the storm and its aftermath. NASA, along with academic institutions and partner agencies, is working to ensure the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency have the best available information to aid in responding to this catastrophic event. NASA's partner agencies in this endeavor include the U.S. Geological Survey, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. NASA aircraft are providing detailed observations of the disaster area. The aircraft are taking high-resolution observations that can be used to assess the amount of damage to communities and the environment. For example, at the request of the U.S. Geological Survey in cooperation with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers, NASA's Experimental Advanced Airborne Research Light Detection and Ranging system is surveying the gulf coastline.

For satellite images and additional information visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/hurricane>; and http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/hrd/Storm_pages/katrina2005/wind.htm

For information about the Advanced Spaceborne Thermal Emission and Reflection Radiometer and QuikScat spacecraft visit: <http://asterweb.jpl.nasa.gov/index.asp> and

For information about NASA and agency programs visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/home>.

Source: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2005/09/050907101352.htm>

29. *September 07, WDSU (LA)* — **NYC firefighters aid their New Orleans brethren.** New York City firefighters have moved into New Orleans to assist local first responders in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. The NYC firefighters expressed pride in being able to help with relief efforts, and say they are merely doing their part — the way fire departments around the nation came to their aid after the attacks on September 11, 2001.

Source: <http://www.wdsu.com/news/4944364/detail.html>

30. *September 07, Associated Press* — **Connecticut practices hurricane response.** Officials in Connecticut said Wednesday, September 7, they are better prepared for a hurricane if one should hit the state. Several state agencies participated in a drill at the state armory in Hartford to practice how they would evacuate 100,000 people from the coastline. Governor M. Jodi Rell said she was concerned after seeing the disturbing images from New Orleans and other devastated areas. She said she wants to make sure that Connecticut is at the highest possible stage of emergency planning and readiness. Rell said previous hurricane drills have included evacuation planning, but did not address specific locations or recovery.

Source: <http://www.turnto10.com/news/4944852/detail.html>

[[Return to top](#)]

Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

31. *September 07, Security Focus* — **Smb4k insecure temporary file creation vulnerability.** Smb4k is prone to an insecure temporary file creation vulnerability. Successful exploitation of this issue could allow a local attacker to gain access to sensitive information. Mandriva has released advisory MDKSA-2005:157 and fixes to address this issue.

Source: <http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/14756/solution>

32. *September 07, Wired* — Getting the Gulf Coast back on the communications grid.

Hurricane Katrina wiped out communications systems throughout the Gulf States, and much of the impacted region remains cut off from voice and data service. On Friday, September 2, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) held a conference call with wireless Internet service providers and infrastructure experts to coordinate volunteer efforts for storm-ravaged areas. FCC staff asked organizers to help gather data from those offering to donate resources — from satellites to power generators to spare parts — to help reconnect the effected areas. These improvised networks will initially target the needs of first responders tasked with rescue, relief and security services. FCC chief of staff Daniel Gonzalez says the commission is waiving some red tape to speed things up. Those waivers include permission for volunteers to launch a low-power FM radio station in Louisiana — an LPFM, which would usually be called "pirate radio."

Source: http://www.wired.com/news/hurricane/0.2904.68779.00.html?tw=wn_tophead_1

33. *September 06, FrSIRT* — MAXdev MD-Pro XML-RPC and multiple unspecified

vulnerabilities. Multiple vulnerabilities were identified in MAXdev MD-Pro, which could be exploited by remote attackers to execute arbitrary commands. The first flaw is due to an input validation error in the XML-RPC library when processing certain XML tags nested in parsed documents, which could be exploited by remote attackers to execute arbitrary PHP commands. The second issue is due to unspecified errors in the Download, Search, Web links, Blocks, Messages, News, Comments, Settings, Stats, and Subjects modules. No further details have been disclosed. Products affected are MAXdev MD-Pro versions prior to 1.073.

Users should upgrade to MAXdev MD-Pro version 1.073:

<http://www.maxdev.com/Downloads-index-req-viewdownload-cid-3.phtml>

Source: <http://www.frsirt.com/english/advisories/2005/1638>

34. *September 05, Gentoo Linux* — Format string vulnerabilities in OpenTTD.

OpenTTD is vulnerable to format string vulnerabilities. A remote attacker could exploit these vulnerabilities to crash the OpenTTD server or client and possibly execute arbitrary code with the rights of the user running OpenTTD. There are no known workarounds at this time. All OpenTTD users should upgrade to the latest version.

Source: <http://www.gentoo.org/security/en/glsa/glsa-200509-03.xml>

Internet Alert Dashboard

DHS/US-CERT Watch Synopsis

Over the preceding 24 hours, there has been no cyber activity which constitutes an unusual and significant threat to Homeland Security, National Security, the Internet, or the Nation's critical infrastructures.

US-CERT Operations Center Synopsis: US-CERT has received reports of multiple phishing sites that attempt to trick users into donating funds to fraudulent foundations in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. US-CERT warns users to expect

an increase in targeted phishing emails due to recent events in the Gulf Coast Region.

Phishing emails may appear as requests from a charitable organization asking the users to click on a link that will then take them to a fraudulent site that appears to be a legitimate charity. The users are then asked to provide personal information that can further expose them to future compromises.

Users are encouraged to take the following measures to protect themselves from this type of phishing attack:

1. Do not follow unsolicited web links received in email messages
2. Contact your financial institution immediately if you believe your account/and or financial information has been compromised

US-CERT strongly recommends that all users reference the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) web site for a list of legitimate charities to donate to their charity of choice.

For more information and current disaster updates please see URL:

<http://www.fema.gov/>

Current Port Attacks

Top 10 Target Ports	6346 (gnutella-svc), 1026 (---), 445 (microsoft-ds), 6881 (bittorrent), 135 (epmap), 139 (netbios-ssn), 40000 (---), 4672 (eMule), 2234 (directplay), 25 (smtp) Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html ; Internet Storm Center
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To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

General Sector

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

[DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports](#) – The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open–source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Website: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

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Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282–9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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